ASBESTOS

JULY - - - - - - 1941

ASBESTOS TEXTILES

PRICES

IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT TWENTY MONTHS OF WORLD WAR AND OUR COUNTRY'S SPEED UP OF INDUSTRIAL AND DEFENSE DEMAND HAS BEEN MET BY THE ASBESTOS INDUSTRY WITH BUT FEW AND SMALL PRICE ADVANCES. INCREASED MANUFACTURING COSTS HAVE BEEN GENERALLY ABSORBED IN A GREATER PRODUCTION. BUT THE RESISTANCE TO PRICE CHANGES CANNOT LOGICALLY BE LONG CONTINUED IN VIEW OF SUCCESSIVE WAGE INCREASES, HIGHER AND STILL-HIGHER-TO-COME TAXES, HIGHER PRICES AT THE MINES FOR ASBESTOS AND HIGHER FREIGHT CHARGES FOR ITS TRANSPORTATION, HIGHER PRICES FOR SHIPPING CONTAINERS AND HIGHER PRICES FOR MANY OTHER SUPPLIES.

OTHER INDUSTRIES TOO HAVE BEEN MODERATE IN MAKING CHANGES IN THE PRICE STRUCTURE, TO THE CREDIT OF SOUND INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT. HOWEVER, THE SUM TOTAL OF SMALL INCREASES ON MANY COMMODITIES SUPPLIED TO THE ASBESTOS INDUSTRY MUST BE MET IN TIME BY INCREASING PRICES OF ASBESTOS PRODUCTS. RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN WILL HOLD PRICE INCREASES TO A MINIMUM OF NECESSITY.

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CONTENTS

	Page
The American Way—Editorial by R. H. Shainwald	2
Because of the War	3
Molded Electrical Insulation	4
Crocidolite in South Africa	10
The Growing of Rare Plants	14
Market Conditions	16
They Say	22
Contractors and Distributors Page Building	24
Twelve Tables for Estimating	24
Thermal Insulating Committee Report	25
News of the Industry	26
The Standard Insulation Co.—Third Anniversary	28
Manhattan Rubber—Advertising Award	29
Atlas Asbestos Buys "Flamemaster" Wicking	29
Rene Dorn Passes Away	30
Guy A. Barker—Dies at 50	30
J-M Retirement Plan	31
New Officers—R. J. Dorn Co.	31
Automobile Production	32
Patents	32
This and That	34
Asbestos Statistical Summary	35
Imports and Exports	36
Production Statistics	38
Current Range of Price	39
Asbestos Stock Quotations	39
Do You Know	40

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THE AMERICAN WAY

Editorial by R. H. Shainwald[1]

Engineers have long recognized 85% Magnesia as the quality standard of heat insulating materials.

Manufacturers of materials as a whole, are at this time faced with the responsibility of producing more and better products for defense needs, but should not overlook the relation of such accomplishment as a factor in "placing their houses in order" against the difficult times that inevitably follow the war.

In building a two-ocean navy, merchant ships, essential defense projects, air bases, cantonments, these and many more requiring speed and efficiency, we need immense quantities of 85% Magnesia insulation—the best American ingenuity can produce.

After the war, regardless of how terminated, we will need those better qualities to successfully survive the world economic adjustment. Ultra advanced designs in equipment and materials to win—now for martial defense—later for economic defense.

American industry has never been found wanting in meeting a challenge, and is living up to its best traditions in this present emergency. As a member of the insulation industry, I am proud in feeling that we manufacturers of 85% Magnesia are alive to our important part, but must be continuously alert to every new opportunity.

Can 85% Magnesia Insulation, the quality standard of heat insulating material, the faithful "Dog Tray", the old time-tested friend of the insulation users, be made sufficiently better to increase defense aid and protect our economic future?

Starting from the best—85% Magnesia—can we incorporate within our product new, highly valuable properties, and control all such properties within pre-

[1] President, Plant Rubber & Asbestos Works, San Francisco, Calif.

scribed tolerances?

Can the 85% Magnesia industry keep apace with research and progress of other essential materials, and equipment designs?

Those questions, in my opinion, are in the process of being answered in the affirmative.

American industrial loyalty, faith, ability to meet emergencies, are again being demonstrated. American ingenuity has thrived by making good things better. That is the way of America's pioneer past, and will make her glorious future.

BECAUSE OF THE WAR

It sometimes seems fantastic that because a few men in Europe decided a few years ago that they wanted power, an American housewife a few months hence will find it difficult to purchase an aluminium pan or, perchance, to serve pineapple juice for breakfast!

Those are the two extremes, perhaps—in between them stretch the many and various events which lead up to the shortage (because of shortage of shipping facilities) of that so delightful beverage.

The war is responsible for many inconveniences—to say nothing of the actual tragedies!

"ASBESTOS", because of the war, finds it impossible to obtain many of the statistical figures which have been regularly published by us for years. One by one the tabulations of production and exports of asbestos and asbestos products in various countries have been discontinued, until there are only a few left.

But we are finding, and our subscribers and advertisers are finding, that this office is broadening its usefulness in other directions. "ASBESTOS" readers need certain facts on asbestos—at least 90% of the questions asked can be answered by us immediately. It is as simple as that.

Because of the war our service department has become valuable to the Asbestos Industry. Try us first when you need information on asbestos.

MOLDED ELECTRICAL INSULATION
of Asbestos Cement

By *S. Pellerano and Chas. W. Gardner*

Editor's Note: S. Pellerano, Consulting Chemist and Technologist, has been engaged in the production, research and other phases of plastics (especially as applied to electrical insulation) since 1917. The refractory type of cold-molding as described in this article, is important to industry and to the defense program.

Mr. Pellerano and his assistant, Mr. Gardner, have for several years past devoted much of their time to the compounding of refractory materials which contain asbestos fibre. An article by Mr. Pellerano on Cold Molding appeared in the October 1939 issue of Modern Plastics (published at 122 E. 42nd St., New York City).

Prior to the advent of asbestos-cement molding composition, porcelain, shellac and hard rubber compounds were already well established electrical insulators. Porcelain is an excellent insulator but unfortunately is quite brittle; the low heat resistance of shellac and hard rubber is for some purposes a serious disadvantage. Molded asbestos-cement combines good physical strength with high heat and arc resistance. It was quite natural therefore that this low cost, easily prepared product should be enthusiastically received as an important addition to the list of available electrical insulating materials.

Today molded compositions of the asbestos-cement type, (known as the refractory class) are employed for articles which are required to resist unusually high temperatures (up to 1000° C.) as well as the electric arc. This severe requirement can only be met by inorganic materials.

Type of article made by cold molded process.

The cold-molding process is employed in the production of molded asbestos-cement articles. The composition is compression molded in a positive die at room temperature and subsequently cured.

Composition.

In its simplest form the molding composition consists of a mixture of approximately one part asbestos filler and three parts of Portland cement (as a binder). About 10 to 12% of water is added to obtain proper molding flow. Other materials, e. g. clays, may be added to further increase the flow, to render the molded object less

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hygroscopic, or to accentuate some especially desired property. The proportion of asbestos to cement may be varied considerably, in accordance with the final characteristics desired.

Canadian Chrysotile asbestos, because of its heat-resistance, flexibility and high tensile strength, is normally employed. The fibre length of the asbestos to be used is determined by the particular application involved; usually what is known as paper stock, or shorter fibres such as "C" and floats, are employed, and chiefly in admixtures. Portland cement, preferably High Early Strength, is employed as the hydraulic binder altho, of course, sand-lime may also be used.

Weighed quantities of asbestos fibre, Portland cement and water are thoroly mixed in a Pony mixer a short time before being molded. After being screened, and sometimes passed thru a cage disintegrator, the compound is ready to be molded. In order to obtain finished articles of maximum mechanical strength it is important that the asbestos-cement-water binder starts to harden (initial set).

Molding.

The compound is usually molded in a hydraulic press. The percentage of water demanded for proper plastic flow will be dictated by the mass and shape of the object to be molded.

The material must be pressed slowly so as to allow the water to squeeze out gradually and thereby eliminate pockets and laminations. Immediately upon removal from the die, the wet molded piece is permitted to set (usually in a moist atmosphere) overnight before being further handled. As the water present in the molding mixture is insufficient to effect complete hydration, the piece is subjected to a 100% humidity, or soaked in water, to further harden.

When the cement has set, the excess water is removed by a short bake at graduated temperatures in a gas or electric oven.

The asbestos-cement finished products normally absorb 10 to 12% water. Where this is an undesirable property, impregnations by materials such as ceresin,

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creosote, asphalt and coal-tar pitch reduce the water-absorption—in some instances below 1%. Molded pieces properly impregnated with coumarone-indene resin are virtually waterproof and, in addition, unlike pitches, do not track when subjected to the electric arc. The coumarone-indene may be added to the asbestos-cement-water mixture before molding, so that when the molded piece is oven-dried the resin will soften and thoroly impregnate the molded product.

Uses.

Recently great impetus has been given to this material in the production of shells to enclose fuses or limiters as employed in the latest systems of power distribution. Arc-shields, electric heating bases and products of this type, are also manufactured from asbestos-cement compositions.

Trade Names.

Some of the trade names of the refractory type of insulation are: Aico-5, Asbestite, Cetec-Refractory, Coltstone, Hemit, Pyroplax and Rostone.

—:—

The ancients had a belief that the strength of an enemy, slain in battle, went into the body of the conqueror. To the warrior, it seemed the greater feat to vanquish a famous fighter than to win over a lesser foe. It meant the gaining of greater strength.

This belief, strange as it may seem, has a certain application for us. Much more strength does come to any man who conquers a great difficulty than to one who wins easy victories.—*Dr. W. F. Kimball.*

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CROCIDOLITE IN SOUTH AFRICA--

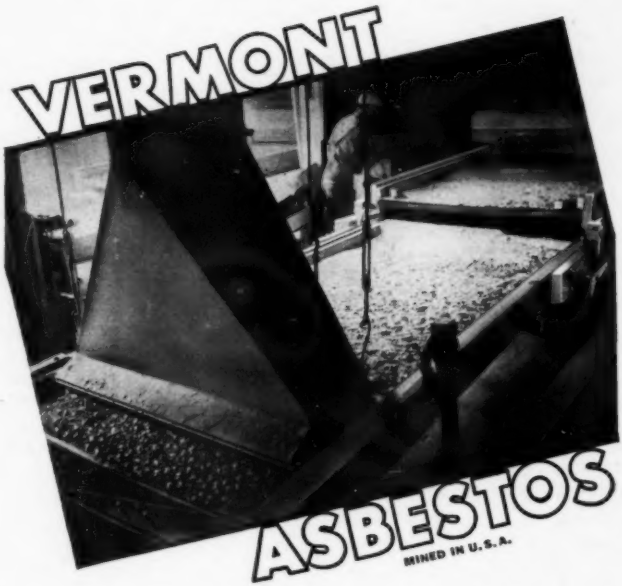
Reprinted from "The Mineral Resources of the Union of South Africa."

Crocidolite[1] is known in the trade, because of its characteristic blue colour, as blue asbestos. It is a fibrous variation of the mineral riebeckite which belongs to a mineral group known as the soda-amphiboles. Crocidolite is a hydrated silicate of iron and soda with only a little magnesia replacing some of the ferrous iron, and it approaches fairly closely to the formula $Na_2Fe_2Fe_3(OH)_3Si_2O_{22}$. A pale blue asbestos occurring in Bolivia and South Australia differs chemically as well as in quality from crocidolite but it is loosely referred to by that name. Commercial crocidolite deposits occur, as far as is known at present, only in the Cape and the Transvaal provinces of the Union and in certain parts of Western Australia. The geological circumstances are almost identical in the three localities.

Good commercial crocidolite works up easily into a mass of fibres that are flexible and resilient and have a silky feel. "Transvaal blue" differs mainly from "Cape blue" in that it usually contains minute magnetite crystals in small and varying amounts which cut the fibres, nor does it fiberise quite as readily as the Cape material. Improvements in milling methods are largely overcoming these adverse factors. The tensile strength of crocidolite is generally greater than that of chrysotile, and it withstands acids and sea water better, but fuses at a lower temperature which is nevertheless well above 1000°C. At about 360°C. crocidolite loses the bulk of its combined water and its tensile strength, but due to its greater resiliency it is considered to possess superior insulating properties to chrysotile at moderate temperatures.

It is principally used in filter cloth, boiler mattresses, insulation packings, gaskets and joints and increasingly in asbestos-cement products where it is frequently blended with other types of asbestos. It is commonly used in marine craft as insulation material. Because of its resis-

[1] See page 3 of April "ASBESTOS" for graph showing sales of Blue Asbestos from 1910 to 1938 inclusive.



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tance to acids it can well be used in the manufacture of battery boxes.

Crocidolite is marketed as Cape blue or Transvaal blue fibre and graded according to length, which ranges from ⅛ inch to 1½ inches, under the producers' own marks. These have not become wholly standardised nor have the Quebec standards been adopted. Fibre longer than 1-½ inches constitutes less than one per cent. of the total production while spinnable fibre, that is fibre of ¾ inch and more, is seldom more than 10 per cent. at the different mines.

South Africa has two large fields of blue asbestos, situated in the Cape and Transvaal respectively. The asbestos is confined to the lower, iron-rich third of the Griquatown stage in the Cape while in the Transvaal the asbestos is confined to the equivalent lower part of the Pretoria series. Here dolomites of several hundred feet thickness separate at least two horizons of asbestos with the lower one carrying appreciable amounts of amosite asbestos. This latter horizon, together with the overlying dolomite, is probably to be considered as belonging to the Dolomite series which underlies the Pretoria beds. The asbestos is characteristically confined to banded ironstones and such conditions prevail also in Western Australia.

The Cape crocidolite fields lie in Griqualand West within a line of low hills that stretch with few intervals from 30 miles south of Prieska on the Orange river, northwards thru Griquatown and past Kuruman to the border of Bechuanaland Protectorate, a distance of 250 miles. The deposits of the Transvaal strike E. W., with a southerly dip, for a distance of about 50 miles, forming the high mountains which rim the northern boundary of the Bushveld igneous complex. This crocidolite area occupies portions of the Pietersburg and Letaba districts.

Crocidolite occurs in cross-fibre veins of varying persistence and of varying width, ranging from a mere film to about 2 inches. The record width observed is about 4 inches. Fibre lengths of an inch or more constitute about 4 per cent. of the workable seams in the Cape; the shortest fibre mined is about ¼ inch. The ironstones frequently show folding and local contortions with enrichment in

the crest of such "rolls," but undisturbed strata also contain asbestos. Near the surface the fibre is often weathered and coloured yellow or reddish due to the liberation of iron oxides and hydroxides. These may stain fibre which is but slightly weathered and such material can often still be marketed as "discoloured" fibre. In the Cape the mines are small in spite of thorough prospecting so that 20 tons of fibre per month is an output not reached by many. As the properties are close to the surface, they are often very much troubled by the amount of weathered fibre. In the Transvaal where the climate is not as arid, the fibre has not been weathered to the same extent. Because of the favourable topography and the fact that exploitation has but recently been seriously begun, the major portion of the output is obtained by quarrying or by open-cast mining. Adits of 30 feet or so are not frequent. As the fibre is continuous with depth, it can be expected that the quality will improve here as the fibre is followed into the mountain sides.

Editor's Note: This is the third article in the series; the two preceding ones were published in April and May "ASBESTOS", and a fourth, which will treat of Amosite, Tremolite and Anthophyllite, will appear in a later issue.

—:—

The June issue of Priorities, house magazine of Prior Chemical Corporation of New York City, contains an article on Asbestos. While there is nothing particularly new in the article, being composed mostly of the various legends of asbestos history—Charlemagne and his tablecloth, H. W. Johns and his asbestos mittens, etc., it serves excellently to keep asbestos to the fore in the minds of the several hundreds of persons who receive and read "Priorities".

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THE GROWING OF RARE PLANTS

By F. R. Cozzens

Since its introduction from the South American jungle in 1839, no other plant has created greater public interest or acclaim than the flowering orchid.

Once so rare that certain species commanded fabulous sums, orchids are now grown in commercial quantities and their exotic beauty may be enjoyed in every climate, providing the temperature, humidity and atmospheric fluctuations of the tropics can be successfully copied. Surprising as it may seem, this can now be done in the living room of the average home, at a cost of only a few dollars. Even more surprising is the functions asbestos performs in making such attainment possible.

Equipment necessary for the home growing of orchids, and being generally recommended is, first, a 30 inch square glass box made of common sash with hinged cover. Second, a humidifier, consisting of a tray of galvanized metal, 26 inches long and 2 inches deep, and filled with *asbestos fibre.* Third, a heating unit which may be of any type from an electric light bulb of proper size, to a small compact stove, such as is used in brooding chickens. A heavy-grade asbestos mat, with holes cut thru it for the free circulation of air, is placed under the heating unit, and all joints of the glass cage except the top cover, are sealed with asbestos tape.

A box of this size accommodates twenty to twenty-five orchid plants which are placed in pots in a rack, directly over the humidifier. The asbestos fibre in the humidifier is saturated with water, twice daily. The heating unit underneath the humidifier is put into action and year-around temperature inside the glass box is regulated by thermostat control, between 50 and 100° F., during the entire life of the plants. Humidity is regulated by temperature action upon the humidifier, and the intake of outside air thru the asbestos mat underneath the heating unit. Adjustment of the top cover completes the necessary circu-

lation of air, and in such environment the orchid thrives.

Not only in the economic production of orchids, but also in the culture and handling of iris, baptisia, arctotis and other rare foreign plants, we find products made of asbestos doing unique and important duties. Many rare, imported bulbs are now snugly wrapped with asbestos tape, then dipped in paraffin, before being shipped. A filler, consisting of 1 part asbestos fibre to 3 parts peat moss is used in the modern flower pot, not only for more uniform watering but especially for more efficient action of vitamin plant foods now on the market. If the pot itself is new, it is very likely made of plastic material containing asbestos fibre for greater strength and resilience.

Plant wounds, after first being treated with disinfectants, are wrapped with asbestos yarn or tape. These materials are found more efficient in preventing outside infection and the chemical makeup of the sap is not affected, as is often the case with wrappers made of vegetable fibres. Incidentally, many of the new liquid plant foods and cultures are filtered thru a series of strainers, made of fine mesh asbestos cloth.

Various types of asbestos insulation are common in buildings utilized in the commercial production of plants, as are asbestos curtains and floor mats. These latter items are for the collection of dust and residue, and for better sanitation which is a very important factor in modern plant culture.

In this rather unusual field, with which the public is fast becoming better acquainted, asbestos products are lowering production costs and helping to bring rare, more interesting and beautiful plants to the attention of the masses. In this they contribute materially to man's greater pleasure and contentment.

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MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS

Faster and Faster is becoming the pace set by the Defense Program. Practically everyone is admitting that "business as usual" is impossible, either for those working primarily on defense work or those who have, perchance, no actual connection, either directly or indirectly with the production of defense materials.

We presume there is no business house in this country which has not had to make some adjustment because of the widespread use of industrial facilities for defense work. The problem is how to make the adjustment in the least painful manner to all concerned.

But business men are meeting the emergency; they are not sitting back and saying it can't be done—they are doing it!

ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

Shipping space on steamers carrying asbestos to the U.S.A. seems to be more difficult to obtain. Substantial shipments are at ports in South Africa awaiting steamers. No doubt the U.S. Maritime Commission will help importers.

Canada is receiving many additional orders from American manufacturers and is giving very good delivery.

Prices remain firm, with rising costs on South African fibres, because of the increased cost in freight and insurance.

ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS

Textiles. There is little change in the Asbestos Textile market; manufacturers are extremely busy with increasing demand. Under these circumstances prices are naturally firm. The war is causing an extraordinary demand for asbestos clothing, particularly for gloves, masks and asbestos blankets, for fire fighting. A report from

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Brake Lining. Sales for May greatly exceeded those for last May and also recorded a substantial increase over the previous month. Export sales declined from April but were not the lowest so far this year.

Paper. Paper prices have stiffened quite a bit principally because of increased costs.

Millboard. While volume has slackened somewhat in this market, there is still sufficient demand to keep the various plants running to capacity. Prices are firm, in fact there has been some increase.

Insulation. High Pressure. Shipments continue at the high levels of the past few months. Demand is strong and prices are firm.

Insulation. Low Pressure. Costs on almost everything with the exception of asbestos fibres are higher, which accounts for somewhat increased prices on Low Pressure Covering. Demand is somewhat above normal for this season, which is accounted for, of course, by the increased housing activity.

Asbestos-Cement Products. There is nothing new about the situation of asbestos-cement products, unless it might be that manufacturers generally are falling farther behind in their shipments of orders for practically every type of product.

The usual seasonal demand, which increases at this time of the year, plus the large quantities of material required for national defense products are taxing the industry's capacity and it looks as tho there would be even longer delays on shipments during the next few months, regardless of the fact that there is no shortage of raw materials.

The above comments are made by men closely in touch with the various field conditions. All opinions and comments are welcome.

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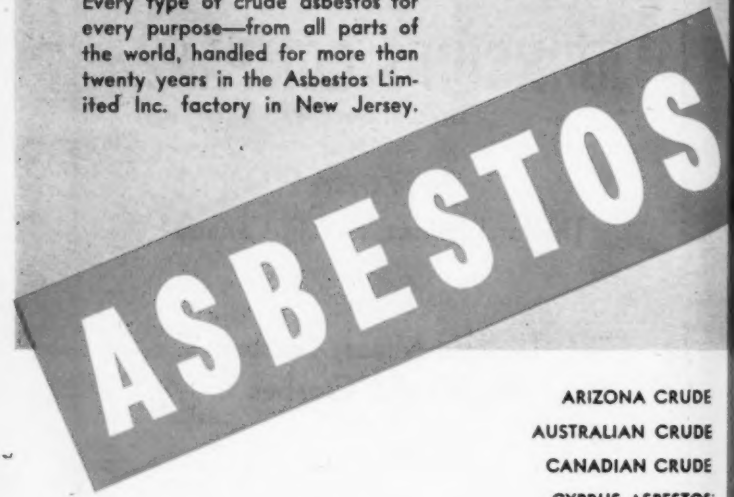

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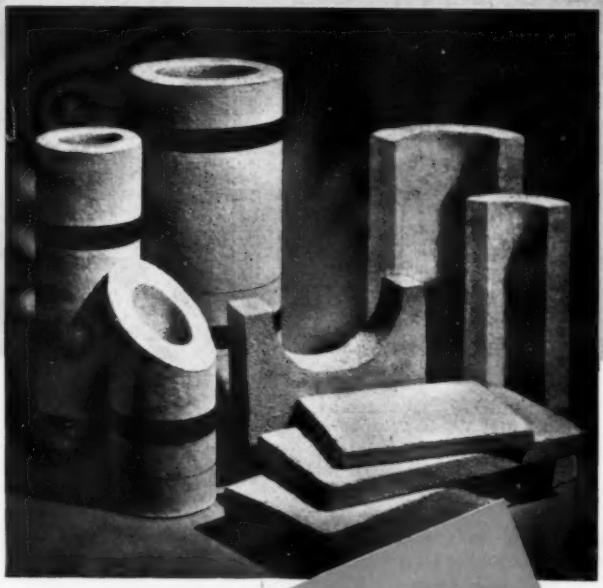

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—:—

An asbestos curtain is now used on a damper in ducts which carry cold or heated gases. The purpose of the damper is the control of air thru the ducts. The purpose of the asbestos curtain of course is fire control.

—:—

Corrugated Asbestos Board, painted brown, gives privacy from the street for a studio-residence in California. Makes an attractive and solid background for vines and flowers.

—:—

Panels of corrugated asbestos-cement board alternate with draperies to divide into several rooms Temple's shop on Madison Avenue, New York. Alfons Bach, well known interior designer and artist is responsible for this example of glamour, given to what is usually a strictly utilitarian product.

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From a raid safety viewpoint there is much to recommend asbestos-cement as not only is it fire-resisting to a high degree, but when scattered or broken up by the force of an H. E. bomb the splinters are not so dangerous as those thrown off by masonry or even timber.

—:—

A large refrigerator manufacturing company has contracted for asbestos board (presumably asbestos-cement board) for back panels to replace metal.

Rhodesian

SHABANI MINE — SHABANIE
GATH'S MINE — MASHABA

African

HAVELOCK MINE — SWAZILAND

Canadian

BELL MINE — THETFORD MINES, P. Q.

ASBESTOS

Raw Asbestos Distributors Limited

Spotland

ROCHDALE, Lancs., England.

CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

Building

Construction contracts amounting to $548,700,000 were reported for the 37 eastern states territory of F. W. Dodge Corporation during the month of May. This contract total, largest monthly figure recorded since June 1930, represented increases of 35 per cent over the preceding month and 65 per cent over May, 1940.

Activity, at a record rate for the post-depression era, continues both in public and private ownership construction. Public ownership projects in May, 1941 accounted for $254,836,000 or 46 per cent of the total. Private ownership construction, however, including many industrial plant projects to be erected for defense production, maintained its dominant position with a dollar volume of $293,864,000, or 54 per cent of the month's total.

One and two family house building continues as a very large factor in the construction program, and contracts represented 28 per cent of the May construction total. This dollar volume made provision for more than thirty thousand new dwelling units. Since the Federal Housing Administration's weekly reported volumes of mortgages selected for appraisal and mortgages accepted for insurance ran well above last year thruout the month of May, continued small-house activity at high levels is indicated.

THE TWELVE ESTIMATING TABLES, which have been mentioned so many times in these pages, are brought to your attention again because insulation contractors find them of so much help that no estimator of insulating materials should be without them.

The cost is very nominal—$1.00 for the set—two tables to each 8½x11 in. page, so that the set is not bulky. Each insulation contractor should make sure his estimators have a set.

These tables cover Sq. Ft. Areas Pipe Covering; Mean Sq. Ft. Areas Standard Screwed Fittings; Mean Area Standard Weight Flanged Fittings; Standard Weight Flange Areas Permanent Type; Standard Weight Flange Areas Removable Type; Figuring Hair Felt; Anti-Frost Insulation; Cork Pipe Covering Outside Area in Sq. Ft.; Ice Water Thick Cork Moulded Fittings Screwed; Brine Thickness Cork Molded Fittings Screwed; Special Thickness Cork Moulded Fittings Screwed; Ducts and Flue Perimeters.

INSULATING COMMITTEE REPORT

At the annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials held from June 23 to 27 inclusive, Committee C-16 on Thermal Insulating Materials made its first formal report since its organization in 1938.

Six important new standards providing needed tests for these products were submitted. Included were tests for compressive strength and flexural strength of preformed block type thermal insulating materials; procedures for the sampling of thermal insulating cements and the preparation, by trowel mixing, of the specimens for use in all tests on these cements; also a method covering the procedure for determining the bulk density of thermal insulating cements to permit the calculation of the necessary storage space for a given quantity of cement in packages as received.

The committee in one of its new standards pointed out that wet covering capacity and volume change upon drying are often of major importance in the application of thermal insulating cements. These properties can be easily determined at the same time that the determinations of dry covering capacity are made. Therefore, the procedures for determining these three properties are covered together in these methods. Another new standard provides methods of test covering the procedures for determining the thickness and density of flexible, felted or woven thermal insulating blankets, rolls, or batts, with or without reinforcement, composed of fibrous materials.

Two definitions, the first developed by the committee, were approved as tentative as follows: *Preformed Thermal Insulating Block:* A rigid or semi-rigid thermal insulating material, either flat or segmental, for application as received, and excluding bricks of the 9 in. series. *Thermal Insulating Cement:* A prepared material which, when mixed with a suitable proportion of water, applied as a plastic mass, and dried in place, affords a substantial resistance to heat transmission. Further information concerning the work of the Committee can be obtained from the A.S.T.M. at 260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia.

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

BIRTHDAYS

L. W. Noland, President, Noland Co., Newport News, Va., July 17.
L. B. Page, Pittsburg, Pa. (Has been selling Asbestos Products for 25 years) July 18.
J. F. D. Rohrbach, Vice President, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn., July 18.
R. S. King, President, Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Lockland, Cincinnati, O., July 21.
M. T. Rhodes, John M. Watt's Sons, Philadelphia, Pa., July 21.
C. R. Hubbard, Vice President, Garlock Packing Co., Palmyra, N. Y., July 25.
George R. Weber, Vice President, United States Asbestos Div., Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Manheim, Pa., July 25.
Frank C. LeRow, Vice President and Treasurer, Asbestos, Asphalt & Insulation Mfg. Co., Chicago, Ill., July 26.
John Ozurovich, President, Atlantic Asbestos Corp., New York City, N. Y., July 31.
S. R. Zimmerman, Vice President, United States Asbestos Div., Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Manheim, Pa., August 1.
Arthur C. Sprinkmann, Vice President, Sprinkmann Sons Corp., Milwaukee, Wis., August 3.
J. A. Whittaker, Secretary-Treasurer, Crandall Packing Co., Palmyra, N. Y., August 6.
A. P. Keasbey, President, Robert A. Keasbey Co., New York City, N. Y., August 6.
Paul C. Collopy, President, Acme Asbestos Covg. & Flooring Co., Chicago, Ill., August 8.
Grant V. Wilson, President, Grant Wilson, Inc., Chicago, Ill., August 11.
W. L. Steffens, Vice President, The Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Lockland, Cincinnati, O., August 13.
Ernest Muehleck, President, Keasbey & Mattison Co., Ambler, Pa., August 15.

To all these gentlemen we extend congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of their birthdays.

"HOW INSULATION RESISTANCE VARIES" by Graham Lee Moses, Insulating Engineer of Westinghouse Electric & Manufacuring Co., is the title of an article appearing in the May 1941 issue of "Electrical Contracting." The article covers special tests affecting coils having asbestos, glass and mica insulation, and gives a number of interesting graphs.

• BLUE ASBESTOS

The Cape Asbestos Company, Ltd., is the world's largest supplier of acid-resistant blue crocidolite asbestos, and the only manufacturer operating its own mines. Inquiries solicited on:

MILLBOARD **YARNS**
ROVINGS **POWDER** **CLOTHS**
PROCESSED FIBRES
Unexcelled for use in
ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPES

• AMOSITE ASBESTOS

This fibre owing to its great length and bulk is unrivalled for use as an insulating medium in:

Asbestos mattress filler
85% Magnesia Insulation

The CAPE ASBESTOS CO. Limited

Morley House, 28-30 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.I.
FACTORY, BARKING, ESSEX

United States Sales Agent:
ARNOLD W. KOEHLER
415 LEXINGTON AVE. **NEW YORK CITY**
TELEPHONE—VANDERBILT 6-1477

THE STANDARD INSULATION CO.--Celebrates Its Third Anniversary

The Standard Insulation Company of Md., Inc., of Baltimore, celebrated the Third Anniversary of its founding with a dinner held in the Gray Room of the Emerson Hotel, on May 12, 1941, at 7.00 P. M.

Those present were Samuel F. Stallings, President, Charles W. Smith, Jr., Vice President and Treasurer, and Charles F. Kirschke, Secretary, comprising the official family; Samuel F. Stallings, Jr., son of the President and a Sales Engineer, and Paul Rackensperger of the office staff. As guests of the Company: J. M. High, Manager of the Insulation Division of The Ruberoid Co., Thomas Cullen, Southern District Representative, and Thomas Bishell, Division Sales Manager of the Cork Insulation Company; Walter D. Bahn, Treasurer of The Union Trust Company of Maryland, and George S. Yost, the Company's Attorney.

The company was chartered in Maryland May 3, 1938 and officially opened its doors for business on May 12th of that year at 119 Light Street. Larger quarters were needed by April 1939, when the Company moved to its present location at 1117 Low Street, where it occupies approximately 10,000 square feet of floor space.

The Standard Insulation Company has executed a number of outstanding contracts in its territory:—The Coca Cola Building in Baltimore, which is considered one of the finest pieces of industrial work in the city, the University of Maryland Dental College Building, Six Hundred Man Barracks at Camp Holabird, Administration Building and Barracks Buildings at Aberdeen Proving Ground; Gallinger Hospital, General Federal Office Building and Navy and Munitions Buildings, the Jefferson Memorial Building and District Grocery Stores Warehouse Building in Washington. The Company has also executed the entire insulation contract on the three Housing Projects in Huntington, W. Va., and Defense contracts at Fort Belvoir, Va., Fort George G. Meade, Md., and Edgewood Arsenal. It is at present engaged in work for the Defense Program at San Juan, Puerto Rico and an extensive contract at the Glenn L. Martin Airplane Plant at Middle River, Md.

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JOHNS-MANVILLE announces a completely new illustrated catalog of packings and gaskets, containing service recommendations and suggestions. Copies are available by written request for Form PK-12A from Johns-Manville, 22 E. 40th St., New York City.

MANHATTAN RUBBER--Wins Advertising Award

The annual award of the National Advertising Agency Network for "The Best Advertising Campaign in Business Papers" was awarded to the Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., of Passaic, N. J., at a recent convention of the Network in Chicago.

One hundred fifty-one campaigns from all over the United States were entered under this one classification, thru the 25 member agencies, the campaign for Manhattan Rubber being entered by their agency, The Roland G. E. Ullman Organization of Philadelphia. It received the unanimous choice of the judges for the first award.

The Manhattan campaign—an unusually comprehensive one—ran in a total of 58 industrial and business magazines and featured the extensive and diversified lines of mechanical rubber goods, asbestos friction material, abrasive wheels, and bowling balls, made in Passaic. This was supplemented by direct mail, catalogs and other forms of advertising and sales promotion. The advertising is under the direction of James J. DeMario, Advertising Manager.

ATLAS ASBESTOS BUYS "FLAMEMASTER" WICKING

Early in May the Atlas Asbestos Company of North Wales, Pa., purchased all patents, trademarks and rights to manufacture the "Flamemaster" brand and other wickings made by Triplewear Brake Linings Corporation of Paterson, N. J.

"Flamemaster" is a high grade asbestos wick of the type commonly referred to as the "Rock Weave."

"Flamemaster" wicking has been widely dispensed in a novel patented Merchandiser which is a handy container to be placed on the dealer's counter or hung on his wall, for four different widths of wicking. Moreover it has printed on it a "stove guide" telling exactly the width to be used on various makes and models of burners.

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"TOWN TOPICS", a sparkling musical comedy-revue was given in Manhattan Center by employees of J-M's main office in New York. Joe Wood, General Credit Manager of J-M, directed the show, which was staged with near-professional performance. A crowd of 1500 J-M employees and their families attended.

THE ASBESTOS CHAPTER of the Minerals Yearbook (Review of 1940), written by Oliver Bowles and K. G. Warner, is now available in printed form and can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at the usual 5c per copy price.

RENE DORN PASSES AWAY

Rene Dorn, President of R. J. Dorn Co., Inc., New Orleans, La., died May 30th, in New Orleans, of bronchial pneumonia. Mr. Dorn who was 58 years old, was born in Martinique, F. W. I., and was a naturalized American citizen.

Rene Dorn, President
R. J. Dorn Co., Inc.
Dies on May 30th

Mr. Dorn was one of the pioneer promoters of the use of Corrugated Asbestos Cement Sheets, in this country and Latin America. He was actively engaged in the manufacture of Corrugated Asbestos-Cement and allied products for over 20 years.

His passing is a great loss to the industry and to those who knew him as a friend and worthy competitor.

GUY A. BARKER -- Dies at age of 50

Guy A. Barker, well-known in the Asbestos Industry as manager of the public utility and electrical products departments of Johns-Manville, died June 18, of a heart attack. He was 50 years old.

Born in Palmer, Nebraska, Mr. Barker was reared on a farm near Boise, Idaho. He was graduated from the University of California with honors in 1914, was associated with the Pacific Gas & Electric Company in San Francisco, chief engineer for the Central Teresa Sugar Co. of Cuba and chief mechanical engineer of the Industrial Accident Commission of California.

In 1921 Mr. Barker joined the Johns-Manville Corporation as a sales engineer and later was the Pacific division sales manager and the Chicago district sales manager. In 1933 he was appointed manager of the electrical products department with headquarters in New York, and made manager of the public utility and electrical products departments in April 1941.

J-M RETIREMENT PLAN

Increased security for the future of all Johns-Manville employees is the purpose of the new J-M retirement plan, approved May 9 by stockholders at their annual meeting in New York.

Under this new plan, which is designed to supplement the benefits provided under Social Security, all employees on regular plant and salary payrolls with two or more years' service with the company, are eligible to participate. At present over 7500 employees are eligible.

Age, not years of service is the consideration on which the plan is based. The primary purpose of it is to assure increased security for the future of all Johns-Manville employees. The plan is voluntary but employees must subscribe to it within 3 months after it starts or 3 months after they have been with the company 2 years.

NEW OFFICERS--R. J. Dorn Company

The R. J. Dorn Company, Inc., of New Orleans, La., announces on July 1st, the election of the following officers: President, Roger J. Dorn; Executive Vice President, Clifford F. Favrot; Vice President in charge of Corrugated Products, Sumner V. Carson; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Blanche Krauss.

THE RIC-WIL COMPANY of Cleveland, Ohio, manufacturers of underground conduit systems, has recently issued a new catalog, No. 41.

This 24-page book contains complete and valuable data on all approved types of construction of underground conduit systems for steam and hot water lines, with special emphasis on Ric-wiL Pre-Sealed Insulated Pipe Units. Copy will be sent to anyone interested upon request direct to the Ric-wiL Company.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS COMPANY of Philadelphia, who sell safety equipment for all industries (including an extensive line of asbestos clothing) have moved to larger quarters at 2820 N. 4th Street. They were formerly located at 800 W. Somerset Street.

WORLD BESTOS CORPORATION of Paterson, N.J., announce that E. A. Warder, has now been appointed as their credit Manager. Mr. Warder was formerly with the Xylos Rubber Company.

INFORMATION CIRCULAR 7166 on Home Insulation, written by Paul M. Tyler, and published by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, is quite informative on the subject. Copy may be obtained by request to the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Total motor vehicle production in May 1941 was 545,321 of which 518,736 were produced in the United States and 26,585 in Canada.

In May 1940 a total of 412,492 motor vehicles were produced, 391,215 in the U. S. A. and 21,277 in Canada.

These figures compare with an April 1941 production of 489,854.

The first five months of 1941 show a total of 2,602,408 against 2,176,874 during the same period in 1940.

PATENTS

This information obtained from the Official Patent Gazette, published weekly by the U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Insulated Structure. No. 2,239,394. Granted on April 22, 1941, to Harry W. MacKechnie, Northport, N. Y., assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York City. Application March 15, 1937. Serial No. 130,806. Description upon request.

Machine and Method of Weaving Insulation. No. 2,239,514. Granted on April 22, 1941 to William F. Astley, Cicero, Ill., assignor to Union Asbestos & Rubber Co., Chicago. Application June 23, 1938. Serial No. 215,397.

A method of manufacturing a blanket comprising arranging warp threads to form a shed, laying a layer of loose material, having elements extending in random directions in between the warp threads of said shed to form a layer therein, forming a weft member out of said layer within said shed by pressing the layer of loose material toward the juncture of the warp threads and crossing the warp threads to confine the weft member so formed between said warp threads.

Brake Liner. No. 2,239,574. Granted on April 22, 1941 to Carl A. Schell, Lower Makefield Twp., Bucks Co., Pa., assignor to Thermoid Company, Trenton, N. J. Application November 4, 1937. Serial No. 302,923.

A brake liner having in the back thereof one or more recesses arranged so as to interrupt the continuity of the ear face portion of the liner in a transverse direction, the side walls of said recess or recesses being substantially parallel so as to permit variations in the effective width of the latter, due to expansion or contraction of the body of the liner without materially affecting the normal effective thickness of said liner.

Composite Sealing Structure. No. 2,240,263. Granted on April 29, 1941, to Stephen M. Lillis, Chicago, assignor to Victor Mfg. & Gasket Company, Chicago. Application March 1, 1938. Serial No. 193,335.

A gasket structure comprising layer of asbestos, a sheet metal covering for the asbestos, and a sealing covering for the metal including an inner layer of a plastic material containing

cellulose nitrate and a plasticizing resin and a non-adhesive outer layer substantially of cellulose acetate.

Friction Disk. No. 2,240,358. Granted on April 29, 1941 to Gustav Walters, Middletown, Conn., assignor to Russell Mfg. Company, Middletown, Conn. Application December 14, 1939. Serial No. 309,152.

A friction disk formed of a spirally wound member comprising strands loosely interlaced and forming a flattened tube of considerably greater width than thickness, the strands of the member having been treated with heat-hardenable binding material prior to the member being spirally wound, the side edges of the flattened tube forming the side edges of the convolutions of the spirally wound member and the spirally wound member having been subjected to heat and axial pressure to cause the spirally wound member to form a unitary disk.

Pre-fabricated Unit Comprising Siding and Sheathing. No. 2,241,642. Granted on May 13, 1941 to Willis J. McCauley, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Celotex Corporation, Chicago. Application June 25, 1938. Serial No. 215,911.

A building unit for walls comprising combined sheathing and siding, the siding offset in such manner as to provide a longitudinal as well as a transverse nailing portion on the sheathing, adapted to be covered by complementally offset portions of the siding of a similarly formed adjoining unit in the building of the wall, complemental means formed on the top and bottom edges of the sheathing cooperating with interfitting tongue and groove construction of the siding for interlocking the bottom and top edges of the adjoining units and complemental means formed on the two vertical side edges of the sheathing for interfitting relation with the vertical side edges of the adjoining units.

Gasket. No. 2,244,640. Granted on June 3, 1941, to Arthur G. Davis, S. Merchantville, N. J., assignor to United States Gasket Company, Camden, N. J. Application December 31, 1940. Serial No. 372,645. Description upon request.

Molded Composition for Brake Linings. No. 2,245,203. Granted on June 10, 1941 to Joseph N. Kuzmick, assignor to Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Passaic, N. J. Application July 2, 1940.

The process of making molded composition, friction or tractive and surface bodies which consists in mixing asbestos fibres, a heat convertible, potentially reactive synthetic rezin and an ester of sugar, to produce a relatively dry mass or mix, and in then molding the said mass or mix and heat hardening the same to produce a molded body of friction material.

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We Americans didn't ask for all this. But it's here; if we aren't able to deal with it, we aren't the people we used to be.—Quoted from the Bell Telephone Bulletin.

THIS and THAT

The photograph used for our new cover was supplied by J. M. Weaver, Research and Development Engineer of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., at North Charleston, S. C. Our readers will agree that its detail is remarkable.

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A. O. Dufresne, for several years Director of the Bureau of Mines of the Province of Quebec, Canada, has recently been appointed Deputy Minister of Mines for the province.

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There has been an unusual number of calls on us recently for photographs of Crude Asbestos and of asbestos mining scenes. Any asbestos firm having such photographs, taken within the last two years, can help publicize asbestos and the asbestos industry if they will send us one or two glossy prints.

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To assist the U. S. Army in the huge task of training men to operate and maintain the thousands of motor vehicles required in various types of transport work, Chrysler Corporation, thru its Fargo Division, has started a course of instruction. A specially adapted 1-ton Dodge truck, containing an instructor, his assistant and parts and materials necessary in conducting the schools, will travel from camp to camp. The first school was held at Fort Knox, Ky.

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A quite delightful travel book about "the two Africas", just published under the name of "Mumbo Jumbo Esquire", contains a chapter on the subject of asbestos. James Saxon Childers, the author, manages in six pages to tell a few of the legends of asbestos, how the mineral was formed, the uses to which it is put, and a brief mention of the Rhodesian Mines.

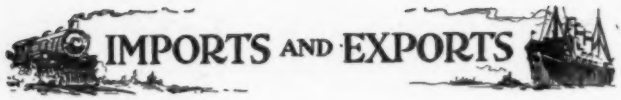
ASBESTOS STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Production, Exports, Etc.

	1939	1940
	Tons = 2000 lbs.	
Canada—All Grades (except waste rock) Sales and Shipments	364,454	345,581
Cyprus (Exports)	10,991	....[3]
S. Rhodesia (Africa) Actual Production	58,313	....[3]
Union of South Africa — Actual Production	21,954	26,750
Production of Blue Asbestc (inc. above)	10,073[2]	8,973[2]
Production of Amosite Asbestos (inc. above)	11,378[2]	17,139[2]
Union of South Africa — Exports	22,631	22,187
Swaziland	....	....[5]
United States of America—Sales	15,459	20,060[4]
U. S. S. R. (Russia)—Exports	....[3]	[3]
—:—		
Consumption by U. S. A. (Apparent)[1]	255,547[1]	262,199[1]
Imports into U. S. A. (Chrysotile) All Sources)	235,861	237,734
Imports into U. S. A. (Blue and Amosite) All Sources	6,699	8,068
TOTAL IMPORTS INTO U. S. A.—ALL SOURCES	242,560	245,802

No information available as to Rock Mined and Milled in Canada. Figures discontinued account of war.

1 Production plus Imports minus Exports.
2 Included in figure given above for production of Union of S. A.
3 Not available.
4 From U. S. Bureau of Mines M. M. S. 900.
5 Not available (figures discontinued account war).



Imports into U. S. A.
(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

Unmanufactured Asbestos:

	April 1940 Tons (2240 lbs.)	April 1941 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Africa (Br. S.)	1,255	1,036
Australia	3	4
Canada	13,581	23,348
Italy	667	.....
	15,506	24,388
Value	*$728,677*	*$1,231,530*

Tabulation by Grades

Crude—Chrysotile (Br. S. Africa)	546	512
Crude—Blue and Amosite (Br. S. Africa)	709	524
Crude (Australia)	3	4[1]
Crude (Canda)	129	161
Crude (Italy)	1[1]	.....
Milled Fibre (Canada)	4,283	10,807
Lower Grades (Canada)	9,169	12,380
Lower Grades (Italy)	666	.....
	15,506	24,388

1 Blue

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	April 1940 Pounds	April 1941 Pounds
United Kingdom (Yarn)	3,863	6,596
United Kingdom (Packing)	3,665	7,497
Unied Kingdom (W. Fabrics)	2,101	.....
	9,629	14,093
Value	*$6,982*	*$11,083*

There were also imported during April, 1941, $151 worth of manufactured asbestos materials from the United Kingdom, unclassified as to kind.

Exports of Raw Asbestos from South Africa

	October 1939		October 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Australia	97	£ 1,850	41	£ 778
Belgium	41	786	.....	.....
Denmark	9	153	.....	.....
France	165	3,577	29	531
Netherlands	23	414	.....	.....
Japan	296	6,773	82	1,909
Sweden	10	280	.....	.....
United Kingdom	1,255	24,258	106	1,920
United States	546	12,259	705	18,727
	2,442	£50,350	963	£23,865

	November 1939		November 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Africa (Fr. W. & Eq.)	10	£ 180	.....	£ .....
Australia	132	2,342	29	554
Belgium	45	839	.....	.....
Denmark	1	24	.....	.....
France	30	690	.....	.....
Japan	129	2,863	.....	.....
Sweden	1	25	.....	.....
United Kingdom	1,219	27,775	1,289	24,500
United States	836	20,146	1,063	23,420
	2,403	£54,884	2,381	£48,474

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Existing general licenses authorizing the exportation of asbestos have been extended to include brake blocks and linings, mattress covers and fillers, clutch facings, packing, sheets and tweeds of yarns fabricated from asbestos, according to bulletin issued by the Philadelphia Regional Office of the Bureau of Domestic & Foreign Commerce.

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According to a list, dated May 26, published by the Exchange Control Commission, the importation of asbestos into Chile will be authorized at the rate of 2 pesos to the dollar. Various other articles are included in the list.

Africa (Union of South)

(Statistics by Dept. of Mines and Industries of U. of S. A.)

	December 1939 Tons (2000 lbs.)	December 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Transvaal		
Amosite	1,013	1,538
Blue	442	105
Chrysotile	17	104
Cape		
Blue	498	601
	1,970	2,348

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR—IMPORTS INTO U. S. A.

SUMMARY FOR YEAR (Union of South Africa)—Tons 2000 lbs.

	1939 Tons	1940 Tons		Tons 1939	Tons 1940
January	1,408	1,923	July	1,766	1,719
February	1,856	2,141	August	1,836	2,488
March	1,935	2,168	September	1,927	2,289
April	1,669	2,381	October	1,971	2,122
May	2,038	2,501	November	1,641	2,325
June	1,937	2,345	December	1,970	2,348
				21,954	26,750

By Varieties:

	Year 1939 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Year 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Transvaal		
Amosite	11,378	17,139
Blue	3,930	2,592
Chrysotile	503	638
Cape		
Blue	6,143	6,381
	21,954	26,750

Note: Delay in publishing these final figures for the year was caused by mail being lost or delayed in transit account of war conditions.

CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

As of July 10, 1941

Canadian	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b Mine (In U.S. Funds)
Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1)	$700.00 to $750.00
Group No. 2 (Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry)	150.00 to 350.00
Group No. 3 (Spinning or Textile Fibre)	110.00 to 200.00
Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre)	57.00 to 85.50
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	40.00 to 49.50
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)	30.00 to 32.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	13.00 to 28.00

Vermont—	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b Hyde Park, Vt.
Shingle Fibres	$57.00 to $60.00
Paper Stock Fibres	40.00 to 48.00
Waste	30.00
Shorts	13.00 to 26.00
Floats	18.00

Note: Crude Run-of-Mine (Canadian) refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and 2 Crude. Crude Sundry refers to certain odd lots of off grade material which do not conform to the regular standards of No. 1 Crude or No. 2 Crude.

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures are compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee made as to their correctness.)

		June 1941		
	Par	Low	High	Last
Armstrong Cork Co., (Com.)	np	23½	28½	28½
Asbestos Corp. (Com.)	np	17⅛	18⅛	18⅛
Celotex (Com.)	np	9¼	10⅛	9⅜
Celotex (Pfd.)	100	66	70	70
Certainteed (Com.)	1	2⅞	3⅞	3⅛
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	24½	32	29
Flintkote (Com.)	np	12⅛	13⅜	13⅛
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	57	64	64
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	124½	127	125
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	18⅜	20¼	19⅞
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	15¾	17¼	16½
Thermoid (Com.)	1	4¼	5	4½
Thermoid (Pfd.)	10	34½	38⅜	35
U. S. Gypsum (Com.)	20	56	60	56½
U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.)	100	172¼	180	175

DO YOU KNOW ---

That Raybestos installed the first Laboratory devoted exclusively to Brake Lining and Clutch Facings . . . .

That the famous Pennsylvania Turnpike with its seven tunnels is equipped with 9800 feet of Keasbey & Mattison "Century" Asbestos-Cement Pressure Pipe, to provide water for flushing the roadway . . . .

That the Canadian Johns-Manville plant at Asbestos, P. Q., has ten major departments: paper; roofings; black line and putties; pipe coverings and insulations; refractory and insulating cements; rock wool products; rigid shingles; asbestos-textiles; packings and brake linings . .

That archeologists have found evidence of mining in parts of South Africa which must have been done hundreds and even thousands of years ago. Gold, copper, tin and iron ore were obtained then and the base metals smelted in numerous places . . . .

That the name "Waukegan" is an Indian word meaning "Little Fort". The town where one of Johns-Manville's largest factories is located, was originally a French Trading Post called "Little Fort" . . . .

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85% MAGNESIA . . . pipe coverings, blocks and cement. For temperatures up to 600° F.

EHRET'S ENDURO . . . Used with 85% Magnesia for temperatures from 600° to 2000° F. Pipe coverings, blocks and cement.

DURANT INSULATED PIPE . . . Pre-sealed, factory-fabricated units for underground pipe lines.

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Write for details of the complete Ehret line. It includes practically every type of heat and cold insulation, and asbestos products.

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